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## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

initiating communication from a first application;

determining at least a destination address;

establishing a first data channel;

connecting the communication to a second application.

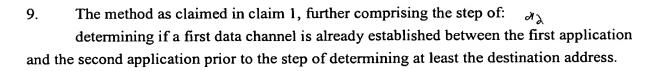
- 2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
- the step of initiating communication including directing the communication from the first application to a second virtual address of the second application.
- 3. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein:
  the step of initiating the communication including directing the communication.

the step of initiating the communication including directing the communication from a first virtual address of the first application.

- 4. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein: 2157 the step of determining at least a destination address including determining a (second actual address associated with the second application.)
- 5. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein: 215
  the step of determining at least a destination address including determining a first actual address associated with the first application.)
- 6. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein:

the step of connecting the communication to a second application including directing the communication to the second actual address.

- 7. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein: <sup>2</sup><sup>2</sup><sup>2</sup> the step of establishing the first data channel including
  - a) communicating between a first computer associated with the first application and a second computer associated with the second application; and
    - b) coordinating the communication over the first data channel.
  - 8. The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein: 316 the step of communicating including communicating over a control channel.



- the step of determining if a first data channel has is already established including verifying a status of the communication channel for the communication between the first application and the second application.
- The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein: 315 the step of determining at least the destination address including: generating a fault notification; initiating a translation; and returning the actual address for the destination address.
  - 12. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of: associating the first data channel with at least one socket.
  - 13. The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein:
    the step of associating the first data channel with at least one socket including:
    associating the first data channel with a first socket associated with the first application; and

associating the first data channel with a second socket associated with the second application.

- The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:
  updating a first status of the first data channel associated with the first application;
  and
  - updating a second status of the first data channel associated with the second application.
- The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

  destructing the first data channel to halt communication between the first and second applications.

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- 17. The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising the step of: 246 the step of destructing the first data channel including receiving an external signal to close the first data channel.
- 18. The method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising the step of: 242 updating a status of the first data channel; and removing an association between the a socket and the first data channel.
  - the step of updating the status including:

    updating a first status associated with the first application; and

    updating a second status associated with the second application.
    - 20. The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein: the step of removing an association including:

removing a first association between a first socket associated with the first application and the first data channel; and removing a second association between a second socket associated with the second application and the first data channel.

- D 21. The method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising the step of: coordinating the destruction of the first data channel over a control channel.
- The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising the step of: determining if an active first data channel is established.
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  The method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the step of: 22.

  Coordinating the reconstruction of the second data channel if the first data channel is not active; and connecting the second data channel.

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24. The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein:

the step of connecting the second data channel wherein the second data channel is different from the first data channel.

5 25. The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein:

the step of connecting the second data channel wherein the second data channel is the first data channel.

26. The method as claimed in claim 23, further comprising the steps of: Ju, 27, updating a status of the second data channel to an active state;

associating the second data channel with a first socket associated with the first application; and

associating the second data channel with a second socket associated with the second application.

27. A computer program product for providing access to stored information, the computer program product including a computer readable storage medium and a computer program mechanism embedded therein, the computer program mechanism comprising:

a method of providing communication between two applications comprising:

- a) initiating communication from a first application;
- b) determining at least a destination address;
- c) establishing a first data channel; and
- d) connecting the communication to a second application.
- 28. A computer program product as claimed in claim 27, wherein:

the step of initiating communication including directing the communication from the first application to a second virtual address of the second application;

the step of initiating the communication including directing the communication from a first virtual address of the first application; and

the step of determining at least a destination address including determining a second actual address associated with the second application.

29. A computer system providing a method for providing communication between at least two applications, comprising the steps of:

establishing communication between at least a first application and a second application over a first data channel;

taking down the first data channel such that the first and second applications are unaware that the data channel has been taken down;

reconstructing a second data channel continue to provide communication between at least the first and second application.

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- 30. The computer system as claimed in claim 29, wherein: the step of establishing the communication including:
- a) utilizing at least a first virtual address for the first application and utilizing at least a second virtual address for the second applications;
- b) directing the communication at least from the first application to the second virtual address associated with the second application;
- c) determining at least a second actual address associated with the second application; and

redirecting the communication to the second actual addresses.

- 31. The computer system as claimed in claim 29, wherein: the step of taking down the first data channel including:
  - a) coordinating the bringing down of the first data channel;
  - b) updating a status of the data channel; and
- c) removing an association of at least a first socket associated with the first application and removing an association of at least a second socket associated with the second application.
- The computer system as claimed in claim 29, wherein: the step of reconstructing a second data channel including:
  - a) determining an actual address for at least the second application;
  - b) coordinating the reconstruction of the second data channel;
- c) associating the data channel with at least a third socket which is associated with the first application and associating the data channel with at least a fourth socket which is associated with the second application.

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